



VOL. XXIV.

AUGUSTA, MAINE, THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 20, 1856.

NO. 43.



"Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man."

SUPER SULPHATE OF LIME.

Mr. Editor:—Who is right? The Country Gentleman of Feb. 7, in answer to an enquiry about manures, says:—

"Unleached wood ashes or lime should never on any account be mixed with guano, bone dust, or superphosphate of lime. Both the ashes (potash, soda, &c.) and the lime will set free the ammonia from its acid combinations, and, as it is a volatile substance, it flies off into the atmosphere and is lost. As ammonia is the most expensive of all manuring substances—costing in our concentrated and available form, at least twelve cents per lb.—it will readily be seen that nothing could be more detrimental to these manures, than to mix ashes or lime with them."

As the lime mixed with superphosphate of lime, not only drive off the ammonia, but convert the soluble superphosphate into the insoluble phosphate of lime, thus neutralizing the effect of the sulphuric acid used in the manufacture of superphosphate."

Mr. Alexander J. Main, in the Journal of Agriculture, and Transactions of the Highland Agricultural Society of Scotland, in describing the process of dissolving bones with sulphuric acid, says:—

"The box being prepared, put in the water of preparation first, then the sulphuric acid, allowing one-half more bulk water than bone; and one-half less weight of acid than bone; that is, to a gallon of acid, allow a gallon and a half of water; and to one hundred pounds of bone, allow fifty pounds of acid."

To the water and acid, the bones must now be added, (finely broken up into half inch fragments), mixing the whole intimately and equally. This done, cover up the box; and then allow the whole to stand untouched for forty-eight hours. The process of manufacture will then be complete. In anticipation of its necessity, I would recommend the careful accumulation of the house ashes during the year, kept in some dry place.

When the operation above detailed is completed, put the ashes in a heap, in a convenient position to the tank; make then a basin at the top of the heap, and lift the dissolved bones out of the tank, placing them in the basin, then turn over the heap with shovels, two or three times, and it will be fit for use."

Thus you will perceive that these parties disagree as to the use of ashes, where sulphuric acid has been used. The matter is referred to you as an umpire. Will you, at your earliest convenience, decide the same by giving your views in addition to the above? AGRICOLA.

Feb. 15th, 1856.

NOTE. The discrepancy between the "high" and "low" parties seems to arise from a want of definiteness in the terms used. Guano is an animal substance. It either contains ammonia ready formed, and in a nascent state, that is to say, just starting forth, or the ammonia may be held in combination with some acid. Ammonia thus held by an acid will be liberated and fly off in a gaseous form, if an alkali or alkaline earth be present, for which the acid has a greater affinity or attraction than it has for ammonia. If, for instance, the ammonia is guano, be combined with muriatic acid, making muriate of ammonia, or if you add lime, the muriate will let go of the ammonia and combine with the lime, or if potash be added it will form muriate of potash. So if the ammonia be combined with sulphuric acid, and lime be added, the sulphuric acid lets go of it and takes the lime, forming sulphate of lime; or if potash be added instead of lime it will form sulphate of potash, and the ammonia be let loose into the air. Hence the reason why wood ashes or any ashes containing potash should not be mingled with guano, if you wish to retain the ammonia.

Well, how is it with phosphate or superphosphate of lime? Pure phosphate of lime or pure superphosphate of lime contains no ammonia, and hence there is no danger of driving off ammonia from it by addition of anything. There would be danger if wood ashes or anything should be added to superphosphate of lime, of reducing it to a phosphate, inasmuch as the excess of phosphoric acid in combination with the lime, and which makes it super, would leave it and combine with the potash, and the compound would become phosphate of potash and phosphate of lime, instead of being superphosphate of lime, and the difference would be this—phosphate of lime will not dissolve in water, and superphosphate will, hence the latter is best fitted for manure. In connection with this we might say that if, in burning bones with wood or coal, the bones should become mixed with the ash or potash, and you wish to add sulphuric acid to convert the bone ash into superphosphate of lime, we think that a little excess of sulphuric acid would combine with the potash, and hold it in combination, and thus preserve the superphosphate of lime.

When the writer in the Country Gentleman says that "ashes and lime mixed with superphosphate of lime will drive off the ammonia," he probably means that the pure chemical article of superphosphate, but the material called and sold under the name of superphosphate of lime, in the manure markets. This contains a variety of articles, such as guano, and perhaps other animal matters, and it must be the ammonia of these "extras" which is driven off, and not any, in reality, from the mass of small quantity of superphosphate in the mass of sundries which bears its name.

CAN PEARS BE PROFITABLY CULTIVATED IN MAINE?

This enquiry is often made by persons who have formed an idea that the pear tree is not sufficiently hardy, or suited to the climate of Maine.

Not many years since this was quite a prevailing opinion, as it has been since the writer's remembrance, that apples would not grow eastward of Kennebec Co.; but ample proof has shown both opinions to be erroneous. It is true there have been some unsuccessful trials for cultivating the pear. There have also been in cultivating the apple; yet, so far as my observations have been, there has been scarcely a failure in either, where healthy trees have been planted upon suitable soil, and proper care taken in their future management. Some complain that if the trees grow well they do not bear. It is true many pear trees from the seed, without grafting, are a long time before fruiting, whereas, those that have been changed, many kinds, come early into bearing. But that the pear may be profitably cultivated in Maine, I think is beyond doubt with all who have given it a fair trial.

The profits of pear culture, and especially where land is valuable, must, I think, for generations to come, far exceed that of the apple. Perhaps not a few will doubt the correctness of this supposition. It may be erroneous; but the reasons given for its support are the scarcity of pear orchards compared with apple, and the difference in value. Apples may be considered worth about fifty cents per bushel, when pears have readily sold from \$2 to \$5 per bushel, and with a much brisker market. A neighbor of mine has one tree which produced him \$48, at \$2 per bushel, in two years. But this falls short of the statement in the Maine Farmer, within a few months, of the \$40 pear tree in Penobscot Co., which, if I recollect right, was that a man carried 40 bush. of pears to market and shortly sold them for \$2 per bushel, and that he picked 20 bushels of them from one tree. These it is true are rare cases, although the lowest prices for good pears. It may be argued that as the cultivation increases the price will diminish. It may be so to some extent, but we should bear in mind that the demand will also increase; and as further proof that there is not much to fear on this ground, we will compare the small amount, raised in Maine, with what is cultivated in Massachusetts, which is barely a tithe to theirs, and yet their prices will warrant transportation for a good market.

KENNEBEC ORCHARDIST.
Vassalboro', March 10th, 1856.

For the Maine Farmer.

FRUIT.

Mr. Editor:—The recent discussions at the Capital, and the exhibition of the many beautiful samples of apples there, is conclusive evidence that the business of fruit raising will ere long be the most profitable branch of agriculture in Maine. It is conceded by all that our apples will keep longer than those raised in a more southern latitude, and of course will be preferred in any market, especially for exportation. It is very important in planting an orchard to select the best kinds for market, and those which are the best adapted to our soil and climate; some standard kinds that do well in Mass. are not at home in Maine, or at least, not in every part of it, and among the number I will mention the Baldwin and Roxbury Russet. One grand error with most men in selecting trees for an orchard, or in engraving one, is the great multiplicity of kinds; from six to eight I think quite enough, and three fourths of them should be two or three of the most profitable and best kinds for market. Twenty-five years ago I planted an acre with grafted trees, cultivated six years with potatoes and corn, and then decided to graft, which has since produced a ton of hay upon an average annually. The trees came forward rapidly, and have for some time produced about one hundred dollars worth of apples yearly, being probably about ten times as much profit as the average of the same amount of land of farms in general. Soon after I gave an apple reason for it? My neighbor informs me that he has practiced feeding his horses for several weeks with carrots that have been touched by the frost, and that he is decidedly of the opinion that they have an injurious effect. I feel my own horse daily with the root, though but slightly, if any frozen, and consequently have but little fear. For the benefit of "old Dobbin," will you be kind enough to jot down your "ideas?"

JOHN MAT.

Winthrop, March 5th, 1856.

NOTE. The above theory in regard to frozen carrots for horses is new to us, and we have, therefore, no definite ideas about it.

E. W. SPRACK.

Dexter, Feb. 29th, 1856.

For the Maine Farmer.

ARE FROZEN CARROTS INJURIOUS?

Mr. Editor:—I understand that quite a number of valuable horses have died in Boston, Portland, and other places, during the past winter, in consequence of eating frozen carrots. The reason assigned is that the frost creates in the carrot a poison similar to prussic acid. Can you give any chemical reason for it? My neighbor informs me that he has practiced feeding his horses for several weeks with carrots that have been touched by the frost, and that he is decidedly of the opinion that they have an injurious effect. I feel my own horse daily with the root, though but slightly, if any frozen, and consequently have but little fear. For the benefit of "old Dobbin," will you be kind enough to jot down your "ideas?"

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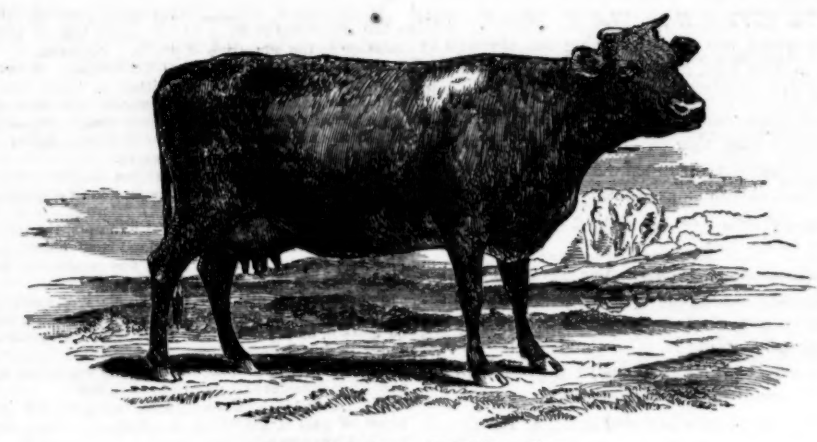
FARM STOCK IN THE UNITED STATES.

It is said that there were estimated, two years ago, to be within the United States more than twenty millions of horned cattle, more than twenty millions of sheep, and more than thirty millions of swine.

CHEMICAL ACTION OF LIGHT. Never shade a house; let sunlight into every room, and let every inhabitant feel its influence. Man requires sunlight as much as plants; sunlight and fresh air are essential for health.

F. A. BRYMAN.

Diamond, Feb. 20th, 1856.



Portrait of an Ayrshire Cow.

For the Maine Farmer.

AYRSHIRE CATTLE.

The Ayrshire breed of cattle, if they are not already, are becoming a distinct breed of cattle. Many people consider them superior for their milking properties, and as good as any for their grazing and working properties. Others think differently. It has been asserted that the breed was originally started by crossing a breed of cattle prevalent in Ayrshire (Scotland) with the improved Durhams. Be that as it may, the continuance of the breed seems to have fixed certain characteristics which now distinguish this variety of cattle. Some who breed them consider them good milk cows, but think the traits rather too short.

We do not now know of any full bloods in the State, but there are grades in several localities, and these grades are much liked on account of their healthy activity, hardiness and good feeding properties. Mr. Abbot, of Glenburn, near Bangor, who has bred them, informed us not long ago that he considered grades of this breed among the most desirable cattle for his section of country. He bred his from a full blood bull from Mr. Cushing's stock, at Waterson, Mass.

Mr. Foster, of Gardiner, has bred grades, and given them a fair trial for the yoke and the butcher, and he told us the other day that he found them excellent for both. As oxen, they were active and hardy, and true to the draft; as milkers, excellent—that they fattened easily, and their beef was of first rate quality.

The above portrait is a good representation of the breed. We hope that those who feel an interest in this variety of stock, and find them satisfactory, will take measures to obtain some full breeders, for without them the grade will soon run out.

For the Maine Farmer.

KING PHILIP CORN—LARGE OXEN.

Mr. Editor:—I noticed, in the last Farmer, that a Mr. John Elliot, of Parkman, enquires of you where the improved King Philip, or brown corn can be had. I have a few acres left which I should be happy to dispose of, for I think it will be a great blessing to Maine.

I also notice, of late, in almost every issue of your paper, notices of large oxen, in Kennebec, Somerset, &c. Dexter, a small town "way down east," ought to be represented. My neighbor, A. L. Barton, Esq., owns a large pair of splendid fat oxen, six years old, and so well matched that a stranger could hardly tell them apart. He put them on the scales to-day, and their weight was just forty-five hundred. There were no lines present that were over eight feet long, so I cannot give you a true account of their girth. Respectfully yours,

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F. A. BRYMAN.

Diamond, Feb. 20th, 1856.

For the Maine Farmer.

March.
By Geo. W. Blake.

Gladly we greet thee, pioneer of spring,
Though clad in winter's garb of ice and snow;
Bravely thou strivest with thy giant foe—
The monarch winter, erst a scorching king.
The streams, unfettered, joyous shout and sing,
And hasten onward to the distant sea,
Through dales and woodlands laughing loud in
glee;
While the old forests, with their gladness sing,
Now skies are bright as those of lovely May,
Now winds unchanged in their wild pleasure go.
Now fall the showers of rain and blinding snow,
And winter vanquish'd, paves his retreating way,
And in the distance, like a peasant gay,
Come the bright months in glorious array.
Franklin, Mass., March, 1856.

FRANKLIN CO. AG. SOCIETY.

LIST OF PREMIUMS—1855.

The standing committee on crops, in offering the following prize, important premiums, take the liberty to say that arrangements are being perfected, which they hope will not inconsiderably replenish the present exhausted condition of the treasury of the Society, and thereby allow them, in future, to be more liberal in the bestowment of bounty upon the model husbandmen of our county.

Wheat, best spring, one acre, \$3; 2d, 24, 1.
Corn, dry shelled, one acre, \$3; 2d, 24, 1.
Rye, one acre, \$2.
Barley, one acre, \$2.
Oats, one acre, \$2; 2d, 1.
Potatoes, one acre, \$3; 2d, 1.
Beans, one-quarter acre, \$2; 2d, 1.
Apples, best fall, 60 cts; 2d, 50; 3d, 40; 4th, 30.
Apples, best winter, 60 cts; 2d, 50; 3d, 40; 4th, 30.
Pear, one-half bushel, 75 cts.
Corn, seed, one-half bushel, 60 cts, 2d, 50.
Clover seed, one acre, \$3; 2d, 1.
Herb grass, one acre, \$2; 2d, 1.
Carrots, one-quarter acre, \$2; 2d, 1.
Ruta rugosa, one-quarter acre, \$2; 2d, 50 cts.
Flax, greatest amount on one-quarter acre, 2,50; 2d, 2, 3d, 1,50.
Flax, greatest amount on one-eighth acre, \$2; 2d, 1,75; 3d, 1,25.
Flax seed, greatest amount on one-quarter acre, \$2,25.
Flax seed, greatest amount on one-eighth acre, \$1,75.
All statements for premiums on crops must be submitted to the Committee on or before the first day of December next.

The Committee reserve the right to withhold all premiums where the above, and all other rules are not strictly complied with.

Per order of the trustees.

HORACE B. PRESCOTT, Chairman.

The Annual Cattle Show and Fair will be held on the 7th and 8th days of October next, at a place hereafter to be determined on.

FRANKLIN COUNTY. IN BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

Farmington Falls, March 1, 1856.

On motion of Mr. Truman Adams, of Wilton, Ordered, That the doings of this Society be hereafter published in the Maine Farmer, and that the premiums offered on crops be published immediately.

A. B. FARWELL, Sec. Secy.

REMARKS ON DOMESTIC MANURE.

Mr. Editor:—As much is said in relation to the scarcity or want of manure in the management of our farms, I have thought that it might be well to call the attention of those upon whom this deficiency appears to bear with the heaviest weight, to some of the many articles that are found to exist within the reach of every one. It is not at all surprising that to a merely superficial observer, the extent of our resources should appear, in this particular, somewhat limited. In enumerating the several materials ordinarily employed as stimulants, it will be well to commence with the more important, or those which, from their general diffusion, are in most common use. Of these, the excrement of cattle is perhaps the most valuable. When applied to soils under cultivation, it not only acts as an immediate and most salutary stimulant to vegetation, in consequence of its combined vegetable and mineral origin, but it also imparts increased energy to the mineral character of the soil, through its solvent and calorific powers. Wherever fermentable manure is applied, a most powerful chemical action takes place, which is highly promotive of fertility, by its pulverulent effects, in conjunction with the influence exerted by the gases which it liberates and sets free. Compact and closely compacted soils are rendered light and friable by the fermentation of these manures, while their decomposition in those of an opposite conformation, tends to increase their compressibility and capacity of retention, qualities without which no soil can be rendered fertile, or permanently productive under management. When allowed to ferment before it is applied, it becomes what is termed "short muck." In this condition it acts much more speedily, than in its crude state, but is far less durable. It is also much more easily incorporated with the soil, when broadcasted, and acts more readily and energetically when applied in conjunction with other substances. To the mind capable of penetrating the arcana of nature, and comprehending the nice economy of vegetation, this subject supplies a study of most absorbing and curious interest.

HOO MANURE, is another article of great value to the farmer. In its essence, it is more concentrated and powerful than the excrement of flock cattle, and acts with much more energy and for a longer time. In all cases, the nutritive properties of excrement are found to be in proportion to the richness of the food partaken of by the animals by which it is supplied. The food of hogs is generally much richer in nitrogenous compounds than that of any other animal kept on the farm, the hog being not only granivorous, but omnivorous, and the uses to which he is applied, requiring that he should be kept on the richest and most nutritive food.

HORSE MANURE is another valuable article used extensively in enriching lands under cultivation. From the character of its constituents, as ascertained by chemical experiments, it has been demonstrated, however, to be less valuable, in proportion to its bulk, than the solid voidings of either the ox or swine. Yet when decomposed, and reduced to short muck, by fermentation, it possesses much intrinsic value, and is highly efficient when applied to most crops, particularly those belonging to the *ceres*. Its value is enhanced by the admixture of charcoal, gypsum and other substances capable of acting as fixers and absorbents which prevent the vol-

atilisation of the gaseous or effluvia compounds eliminated by decomposition, and which are of scarcely less value, in a manurial capacity than the earthy or mineral matters it contains. By composting it with other substances, for instance, chip manure, forest scrapings, muck, &c., a very important saving may be effected, and a most efficient compound supplied for the sustenance of all the various crops cultivated on the farm.

SHEEP MANURE. On heavy and tenacious clays, sheep manure is highly valuable. Owing to its hot and highly fermentable nature, it is better adapted to pulverise and disintegrate the texture than perhaps any other fermentable substance or manure that is known to our agriculture. Composted with muck and good mould, with a small admixture of lime and gypsum, sheep manure is unquestionably the best and most economical allment that can be applied to beets, carrots and Indian corn, especially on soils of a clayey texture. The amelioration effected by its application, is more durable than that produced by stable dung, and its action upon the crops more immediate and well sustained. Where large numbers of sheep are kept, a little care in supplying suitable materials will enable one easily to augment the quantity of manure from this source from one-fourth to one-half. All that is required to effect this, is to cart in muck, loam, sods, forest scrapings, and other similar materials having a vegetable origin, and sprinkle them over the surface of the shed or yard, every week. By this alternation of voidings, liquid and solid, with the above mentioned materials, a very excellent stimulant for vegetables will be obtained, and at slight expense. As a top-dressing for lands in grain and grass, this compost is unequalled, and when spread over the surface in the autumn, is perhaps the cheapest application that can be made.

NIGHT SOIL is another invaluable manure. Owing, however, to an inveterate and insane prejudice which prevails in many minds, very little benefit is derived from its use. By cleaning out the vaults of our privies, and rendering the contents innocuous by the use of deodorants (sulphuric acid or lime,) and mixing them with mould, the full value of this important article may be economised, and made to subserve a most useful end. On garden crops it is invaluable, producing a rapid development, and crowding forward the vegetables to maturity with a vigor which characterises no other fertilizer that can be used. Most farmers have observed its highly stimulating effects when applied to Indian corn, and the extremely dark and glossy green which it imparts to the foliage of that invaluable crop. On other plants, its invigorating action is also strikingly apparent. No farmer should permit it to be wasted. Those whose object is to be so sensitive to allow of their exposing themselves to the odor of this article, when managed in this way, possess a conformation far too delicate for the ordinary avocations of the farmer's life.

MAN MANURE. This is a most valuable article, and is said by those who have experimented with it in various field and garden crops, to possess a value equal to that of the best guano, even when mixed with half its bulk of garden mould. By mixing the excrement of hogs with muck, or well decomposed peat, and saturating the whole with urine, or diluted sulphuric acid, a compound of great energy will be formed, and which, when applied to the purposes of vegetable enrichment in the ordinary way, will insure the best and most salutary results on any crop.

GOOSE DUNG, although possessing, in its crude state, qualities highly unpalatable, and even deleterious to plants, is, nevertheless, endowed with principles which render it capable of being transformed to a good and salutary manure. To secure this result, it may be thrown into a heap, after being previously saturated with water in which salt has been dissolved, and mixing it with fine caustic lime, gypsum and wood ashes, one bushel of the three last ingredients, in equal proportions, to six bushels of the excrement. The compost should be allowed to remain six weeks undisturbed, before being used, and then applied in the same manner as guano and poudrette. For Indian corn, it does well in the hill, but for grain and grass crops, it should be broadcasted. Twenty bushels to the statute acre, will be found a liberal application for well-set sward land, or land under wheat, oats, or rye. When used as a garden manure, it should be sown broadcast, and worked in by the spade or rake. There are very few pivoting roots, which do not receive great and obvious benefit from this application.

PIGEON EXCREMENT. The stale from the dove coot, like the excrement of the hen, to which it is strongly assimilated, is another valuable fertilizer. It may be applied to soils and crops in a perfectly crude state, and always with admirable success. It is of a warming nature, rich in all the essential elements of nutrition, and exerts its energies at once. It is less durable than some other manures, and owing to its energy, requires to be applied in less quantities, especially on cultivated crops. For roots and bulbous plants, it is invaluable.

CHIP MANURE may be regarded as belonging to the same category as muck and peat. When decomposed, it is fine and light, and when applied presents a heavy preponderance of vegetable and mineral constituents. It possesses a high degree of value as an ingredient in composts, especially those which are mostly of mineral nature. Its effects on Indian corn are well known. The finer it is, the more immediate and efficient will be its action, though in this condition it is less durable than when applied in a coarser state. Currant, gooseberry, and other bushes of a fruitiferous chole, are greatly benefited by annual applications of this article; it tends to keep the soil light and moist, and besides supplying a healthy pabulum, favors the expansion of the spongioles, which it vivifies and strengthens.

FOREST MOULD OR SCRAPINGS. These articles are also of vegetable origin, being derived principally from the decay of leaves, wood, &c., and consequently possess in themselves many of the more important vegetable principles, such as for instance, as the nitrogenous and carbonaceous compounds which enter, more or less extensively, into the texture and organization of all plants. When accumulated either in the spring or fall and placed in situations favoring decomposition, these materials are readily resolved into a highly powerful manure. If placed in the cattle yard, or hog pen, deposited under sheep sheds, or mixed with other materials in the compost heap, their valuable properties will be happily economised, and an important addition thereby secured to the available manurial resources of the farm. Too much importance cannot well be attached to articles of this character; they are all valuable adjuncts in the process of fertilization, and their economy and judicious application, will tell upon the development and maturation of the future crops of him who uses them, as well as upon the amelioration and improvement of the soil to which they are applied. No one who can procure them need complain of a want of manure.

BONES constitute another valuable fertilizer. Crushed and ground bones have long been extensively used both in this country and in Europe. On almost every species of vegetation—such as well as grains—they act with surprising promptness, and their effects are both salutary and lasting. Bones dissolved in sulphuric acid—which is a great promoter of vegetative power in the soil—are perhaps more efficient than in any other state in which they can be applied. As all bones contain large quantities of phosphate of lime, their mechanical effect upon the soil is considerable, and a degree of constitutional improvement—proportioned to the quantity of the article applied—will follow as a natural result. To those who have never experimented with this species of manure, I would say, be no longer remiss in the performance of an obvious and most important duty. It behooves every one who has soil to cultivate, to strive, by every possible means, to improve its productive capacity, and to secure from it the richest and most liberal rewards. In order to achieve this result, we must have manure. This can never be possessed without effort; like all other acquisitions, it must be purchased by effort, and often at the sacrifice of ease and comfort. But in such an undertaking, considerations of a nature should be entirely overlooked. A MONTGOMERY COUNTY FARMER.

-Gwynedd, Feb. 1, 1856.

[Germantown Telegraph.]

STRIPED AND BLACK BUGS.—A CHEAP HOT-BED.

One of the greatest evils we have to contend with in our gardens is the ravages of the bugs in our young vines, and numerous are the inquiries, and suggestions about the best way to protect them while young and tender. Various expedients have been tried with more or less success, according to the care and time bestowed upon them. It is an old saying that "a fat calf is not lousy;" on that principle I suppose that a plant or vine growing vigorously without any check, or being put back by transplanting or other cause, will not be injured by bugs. Such I found to be the case with my vines last year, and the method I took to insure a rapid and vigorous growth was new to me, and may be to others. I will state the process:

I used the manure heap from the horse stable for a hot-bed. After leveling down the top where it was heated, I covered it with pieces of rich turf taken from the edge of the barn-yard, cut into squares of five or six inches, and placed grass side down. I planted my seeds in these pieces of turf so that each piece would make a hill; then when it was time to transplant, I just removed each piece of turf to a place prepared for it in the garden without disturbing the plants in the least. I never saw plants grow so fast before, and not one of them was injured by the bugs, while some planted in the usual way were destroyed by them. For the convenience of transplanting, I should think that turf would be better than loose earth to put on any hot-bed. [Rural New Yorker.]

IMPROVEMENT IN HEAVY IRON SHAFTS. Among the list of patents recently published, we notice one for an improved wrought-iron shaft, for steamships or other places where great strength is necessary. It is known that to make a solid wrought-iron shaft, has been found a very difficult matter, on account of the uncertainty of its being properly welded in the interior. It has also been found from some experiments recently made in England in the manufacture of large wrought-iron guns, that after heating a large mass of wrought-iron to a degree necessary to make sure of a perfect weld in the whole mass, in the cooling, the iron becomes granulated in the interior, thereby losing its fibrous nature, and becoming not much stronger than cast-iron.

The nature of the improvement alluded to in the patent of Mr. Otis Tufts, is to construct a shaft in pieces, longitudinally. Being hollow and hooped together, a much greater degree of strength is obtained with less weight of material. In the opinion of our first mechanics who have examined the subject, it is thought to be a very necessary and valuable improvement, especially in the construction of shafts for ocean steamships, where safety and durability are specially called for. [Boston Journal.]

CURING PORK AND BEEF HAMS. We have often tried applying the salt, &c., by rubbing, instead of a pickle or solution in water. By taking two or three ounces of saltpetre, made very fine for a hundred pounds of meat, mixing it thoroughly with good fine salt, adding molasses sufficient to give the whole the exact appearance of molasses sugar, and rubbing your hams two or three times,—three times if large,—at intervals of three or four days, you will get a very fine article, provided you have a good piece of meat to begin with. But if your ham was taken from an old, hard-working, half fat or half fat animal, either of the pork or beef producing race, no subsequent treatment will remedy the evil. [Cultivator and Gazette.]

MACALAY'S HISTORY. The enormous sale in England of the new volumes of Macaulay's History of England has been exceeded by the sale in the United States. Messrs. Harper & Brothers, who paid the author £300 for early sheets, sold 75,000 volumes of their three different editions, in the first ten days. The London publishers are said to have paid the author £16,000 for the volumes now published.



AUGUSTA:
THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 20, 1886.

FURTHER DISCOVERIES IN AFRICA.

We have from time to time given such information as we could derive from different sources, relative to the discoveries going on in Africa. A new era seems to be rapidly drawing upon us, as it regards the obtaining knowledge of this hitherto sealed portion of the world. The first grand discovery—the opening of the door to the interior of this quarter of the globe, was the tracing of the river Niger to its source, a few years ago by the Landers, since which time constant progress has been making in the knowledge of the country far into Central Africa, and the developments which are made from time to time of the newly discovered tribes, and cities, and fertile, and abundant resources of the country, are both wonderful and gratifying.

IMMENSE SWINDLING OPERATIONS.

In our last paper, in the foreign news by the Baltic, we gave a notice of the death, by suicide, of John Sadler, a member of Parliament. Since his death, it has been discovered that he was the guilty of a series of most stupendous frauds, the amount of which, it is thought will not fall short of one million pounds—or nearly \$5,000,000. The London Morning Advertiser, speaking of the affair, says:—
“It has been ascertained beyond all question that Mr. Sadler had forged no fewer than 50,000 Swedish railway shares and obligations of £5 each, and that large sum of money was raised. This forgery alone is to the nominal sum of £250,000, only it is not yet known what amount he was able to raise on the shares and obligations. In addition to these forgeries, there are forgeries of several deeds and mortgages of estates in Ireland. As regards those, however, the extent is not yet known. But perhaps the boldest and most daring forgeries of all, are those which relate to the deeds for the purchase of property in the Encumbered Estates. The forged deeds purport to bear the signature of the Commissioners, the Registers, the Chief Clerk, the Solicitors in the various cases, and the Commissioners, Seal. The extent to which this class of forgeries has been committed, may be inferred from the fact that the stamp duty alone on those amounted to several hundred pounds. A considerable number of forgeries on private individuals have also been discovered, and there is every reason to believe that others yet remain to be ascertained. Those which have been detected are supposed to amount to nearly £100,000.

SPRING ELECTIONS.

The second trial for Mayor was held in Rockland, on Monday last week, and resulted in no choice. A third trial, at which a plurality elects was to take place yesterday, 17th. We have not yet heard of the result.

FAIRFIELD. Moderator, Jonathan Purinton; Andrew Archer, Town Clerk; Eldridge P. Pratt, Andrew Archer, and Chas. Cornforth, Selectmen, Assessors & Overseers of the Poor; Joseph F. Nye, Treasurer & Collector; Wm. B. Snell, Town Agent; Ebenezer Davis, and George Richardson, Sup. School Committee; Joseph F. Nye, Geo. A. Spaulding and Eleazer Ross, Constables.

By the report of the selectmen, it appeared that the total expense of the poor for the past year was \$1100, and that those who were supported at the town farm, were kept for fifty-nine cents each, per week. The report showed the indebtedness of the town to be \$3400.

The town voted to raise the following sums, to wit: For the support of the poor and other incidental town charges \$1500; for schools \$1500; to pay town debt in part \$1000; cash highways \$300; labor and materials for do. \$5000. By vote the selectmen are authorized to prosecute all violations of Liquor law.

MOUNT VERNON. Daniel Marston, Moderator; Moses S. Mayhew, Town Clerk; John Walton, Daniel H. Thayer and Albert G. Gilman, Selectmen, Assessors & Overseers of the Poor; Ezekiel Martin, Town Treasurer; John Prince, Town Agent; Rev. Wm. R. French, Supervisor of Schools. All Republicans.

MERCER. Josiah Hinkley, Moderator; M. Lewis Burr, Clerk; S. B. Walton, Alviny Whitcomb, and Josiah Hinkley, Selectmen; Henry Thompson, Treasurer; Brucey Curtis, Town Agent; Selden Gray, Superintendent School Committee; Eben Gray, Constable & Collector.

MAINE DISASTER. The brig Mary Cobb, of and from New York, for Portland, was last week missed, and was seen ashore on Bangs Island Point. She filled at high tide and bilged. Her cargo is a valuable assorted one, estimated worth some \$75,000, on which there is an insurance of \$7,000 in the Ocean office, besides other amounts in New York. The underwriters' agent has charge of the vessel, and is taking out the cargo, part of which comes out in good condition. The Mary Cobb, is a good brig of 285 tons, built at Rockland in 1854. At the time of the disaster, the crew were badly frostbitten, and the vessel so much leaved up that the anchors could not be cleared.

SPRINTING. Those who take an interest either for the sake of this new belief, will attend the lecture of Prof. Brittan, of New York, on Wednesday evening, 10th. See advertisement.

THE MAINE FARMER: AN

EDITORIAL TABLE.
THE MEMORIAL AT HOME. With some incidents of travel from Missouri to California, in 1852-3. By Mrs. G. B. Forre, wife of the late U. S. Secretary for Utah. New York: Dir & Edwards; Boston: Phillips, Sampson & Co. The position occupied by the author of this work, eminently qualified her for its compilation. Any one who wishes to learn more concerning the abominations of Mormonism, which we only wonder any christian nation tolerates at this enlightened era, will gain much interesting information from the perusal of this work. Some portions of the book have already been given to the public through the pages of Putnam's Monthly, where they attracted much attention. The author gives a very interesting account of the journey through Kansas and over the plains to Utah, and also of her return through the gold regions of California. For sale by Stanwood & Sturgis.

FRANK LESLIE'S ILLUSTRATED NEWSPAPER. The numbers already issued of this new weekly surpass anything of the kind ever before attempted in this country. The number of the 8th, contains spirited engravings of the launch of the steam Niagara, and the one for March 15, fine portraits of Fillmore and Donelson, the American candidates for the next President and Vice President of the United States. This paper keeps its readers well advised with regard to all that is going on both in the social and literary world. Published by Frank Leslie, N. Y., at \$4 per annum.

IN PRESS. T. B. Peterson, Philadelphia, announces for publication, on the 22d inst., a new work from the pen of that talented author, Mrs. Caroline Lee Hentz, whose death we noticed a week or two since. It is entitled, 'The Puritans of America.' We feel sure that the purchasers of this work have a treat in store for them, of no ordinary character. We shall speak more fully of this work, hereafter. Sent free on receipt of price—\$1.25, bound; or \$1.00, in paper covers.

ANOTHER DEFAULTER.

The City Treasurer, of New Orleans, Col. Wm. H. Garland, has proved a defaulter to the amount of about \$100,000. The discovery of his delinquency, on the morning of the 21st inst., created great excitement. Mr. G. attempted to escape on board his own schooner, the Elizabeth Jane, but the vessel was overhauled and he was found secreted on board. He was arrested and taken back to New Orleans. Only \$600 was found upon his person when arrested. The delinquent's delinquency was not, probably, full short of \$150,000, while it is thought by many that the city has suffered during his administration, "financially, executive and legislatively," to the extent of at least \$1,000,000. The official bond of Mr. Garland was only \$10,000, and even this pittance, it seems, cannot be recovered, on account of the City Council having illegally accepted his old bond without requiring it to be signed anew.

The captain of the Elizabeth Jane was arrested on the charge of aiding in Garland's escape, and put under \$25,000 bonds. The trucks of Garland were found on board the vessel. One of them was remarkably heavy, but on examination it was found to contain no treasure. Some private papers and documents were discovered. From these the Finance Committee believe they can establish Garland's title to real estate and other property worth over two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

IMPORTED SEEDS.

We have received a package of vegetable and flower seeds from J. Vick, Publisher and one of the Editors of the Genesee Farmer, which we were very glad to receive, and for which we heartily thank him. Mr. Vick has taken the trouble to import from Europe, and from the best sources, a large lot of vegetable and flower seeds which he offers for sale, at the rate of 16 cents per one dollar, which he will forward by mail postage paid, to any part of the United States. His address is, James Vick, Proprietor of Genesee Farmer, Rochester, N. Y.

THE GREAT WEST. People will "go West" that we know. But many of them go there without any definite knowledge of the country, or of its business, or wants. Such persons would do well to consult some one who is capable of imparting the requisite information, and whose advice may be relied upon. By an advertisement in another column of this week's paper, it will be seen that Mr. W. B. Young has opened an office in Boston, for the express benefit of those who wish for information concerning the western country. All such will find it for their interest to give him a call.

THE FLORAL CONCERT.

The young ladies' class, under the direction of Mr. Welch, came off at Winthrop Hall, on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings last week. The singing, as a general thing, was very good, and many of the young ladies sang finely. The whole affair reflected much credit upon both teacher and scholars.

CROWDED OUT.

A number of articles, prepared for this week's paper, were obliged to lay over. Among others, a synopsis of the new liquor bill reported by the judiciary committee notices of new publications, big oxen—donner calves, &c. &c. Will endeavor to do them justice in our next.

YOUNG AMERICA AMONG THE BELLS.

On Thursday and Friday evenings of this week the Alexander Family will offer our citizens a pleasing and novel entertainment at Winthrop Hall. They come here well recommended, and are doubtless worthy of patronage. We refer the reader to their advertisement.

END OF THE FLOODING AFFAIR.

On Tuesday of last week, in the Boston Municipal Court, on an indictment for assault and battery on Joseph Porter, Coburn and Dalton were sentenced to pay a fine of \$25 dollars each. This is the end of this matter, which has occupied the public mind for some time past, to a greater or less extent.

TERRIBLE DISASTER.

The telegraph brings us the news of the burning of a ferry boat, on Saturday evening last, while crossing the Delaware from Philadelphia to Camden, by which some thirty persons lost their lives, being either drowned or burnt to death. We have not room for particulars, this week.

FIRE. The store of Chute & Co. at Newry Corner, was burned on the night of the 4th inst., together with the contents and one hundred dollars in money that Mr. C. intended to send away the next morning. Supposed to have taken from matches in the attic. Loss \$1800. Insured \$1000.

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Mr. S. N. Taber, our authorized traveling agent will pass through the towns in Franklin county, during the last of this month and in April. He is duly authorized to take subscriptions, and collect any moneys due the Farmer.

FAST DAY IN MASSACHUSETTS.

Thursday, the 10th day of April next, is appointed for Fast Day in Massachusetts.

GATHERED NEWS FRAGMENTS, &c.

Five Negroes in Georgia. A bill has passed the Georgia House of Representatives, by a large majority, which provides that the tax now imposed upon free persons of color, shall be set apart as a fund to be applied in transporting this class of people voluntarily beyond the limits of the United States, and those so disposed may voluntarily return to servitude.

A Warning for the Boys.

An exchange paper states that a daughter of Mr. P. Pendleton, of Essex, Mass., on her return from school on Thursday last, was thrown down by a boy's sled, injuring her head so badly that she died the next day.

From Kansas.

A letter from Lawrence states that on the 18th ult., Sam. Lattus who assumes to act as Sheriff of Douglas county when Jones is absent, proceeded to Hickory Point with about twenty men, to arrest Mr. Branson, who was rescued from Sheriff Jones' custody on the 26th of November last. The Free State men, however, rallied around Mr. Branson, and Lattus and his party were compelled to retire without accomplishing his purpose.

The Ill-Fated Brig Wm. F. Safford.

This brig which was sunk by being cut through by ice in New York harbor, has been pumped out, and will be taken to Wall street, where she will be sold on account of the underwriters and whom it may concern. Some of the bodies of those that were drowned were found within her, and all the damage which her hull received from the ice, was the staying in of her timber port in the bow.

The Snow in Western New York.

There is a vast quantity of snow upon the ground in the western part of New York, and high winds are constantly piling it into the deep cuts on the railroads, causing great delays and interruptions in the running of the trains.

German Capital invested in U. S. Lands.

It is stated upon German authority, in the Pittsburgh Dispatch, that since the Sundebrun war in Switzerland, the Catholic clergy and monks, fearful of losing the large property they held, have been converting it into cash, which they have from time to time sent into United States to purchase land for them. They have agents in this country to manage these lands, and get Catholic settlers for them. In this way a colony has been founded in Iowa, mostly of Germans from Pittsburgh.

The Arctic Real Estate.

The English bark "Resolute," picked up in the Arctic sea by a New London whaling vessel, still remains in possession of the London Custom House officers, awaiting the action of the British government. A great many visitors daily board her, and some unscrupulously curious persons have made free with the liquor, books and curiosities left on board, so that the officers having her in charge have been obliged to shut down on a free and untrammelled circuit of the ship.

Steamboat Collision and Loss of Life.

Louisville, March 10. On Saturday morning steamer E. Howard and Henry Lewis came in collision near Troy, Ind. The latter boat was sunk and the former slightly damaged. All the cabin passengers of the Henry Lewis were saved through her hurricane deck, but 20 of the hands and deck passengers were drowned. The boat and cargo are supposed to be a total loss. Insured.

FIRE AT TURNER—\$30,000 WORTH OF PROPERTY DESTROYED.

We understand that a fire broke out at Turner Village, yesterday forenoon, at about 11 o'clock, the building occupied by the box factory; thence connecting with the grist mill, saw mill, and woolen factory, destroying all the buildings. By intense effort, the stock in the woolen factory was saved, but none of the other buildings. Nothing was saved from the grist mill building. The new mill was owned by Messrs. French and Chase of Turner; the grist mill by Gen. Philo Clark, and the woolen mill by C. J. Faulkner of Boston. We do not know the name of the owner of the box factory. We are informed that the amount of insurance, if there is any, on the buildings. This was a most disastrous calamity for our neighbors, destroying as it did a very important portion of the village; but we trust the buildings will soon be rebuilt, for the owners people are not the ones to be easily cast down.

DEMO. ADVERTISER.

BATH BARK LOST.

NEW CASTLE, England, with a cargo of coal and lead for New York, sprung a leak on the 22d Jan., in lat. 42. 22. 34 N., and was abandoned on the 7th Feb., at 1-2 P. M., off Cape Cod. The bark, of 1200 tons, was built at New York, and was on her way to New York, when she was wrecked on the coast of Spain, where she was on the 13th ult.

A NEW KANSAS CASE—DISASTROUS RESULT.

A couple of Irishmen with a horse and sleigh, on their way to the city from Westbrook, yesterday afternoon, concluded to take the York and Cumberland railroad track, as that was much more level than the country road. They were going to the city to see the new water in the hold. She went down some day, at 8 P. M. Capt. Wallace and crew took the boat, and after being three nights and three days in an open boat in a heavy sea, reached the coast of Spain, where she was on the 13th ult.

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LEGISLATIVE COMPEND.

SENATE. The report of commissioners appointed to examine and classify the special acts and resolutions of the State, was taken up, and referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

On motion of Mr. Farley, the Senate took up the resolve authorizing a law in behalf of the State, which was passed by a majority of 15 yeas and 10 nays.

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On

THE LATEST NEWS FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE ARABIA.
The steamship Arabia, with dates from Europe to the 1st inst., arrived at Halifax on Tuesday last week. Her news is seven days later than previous advices. She brings no news of the Pacific.

The following dispatch was sent to Brown, Shipley & Co., Liverpool agents of the Collins Steamship Line:
"Steamer Edinburg, which arrived here (Halifax) from New York on the 14th inst., passed Feb. 7, large quantities of broken ice, and on it saw a quantity of broken glass furniture, fine ornamental doors, with white or glass hand, a lady's work box, and some other articles, such as would be in use in the cabin of a first class ship or steamer. The Edinburg was then out five days from New York, lat. 40, 30, 10, 45, 40, time 30 hours, 7th of Feb. 1866. Are not thought to have belonged to the Pacific?"

Insurances have been made on the cargo of the Pacific at \$20.50, free of average.
The following summary contains everything of importance:
GREAT BRITAIN. There is some talk, but it is merely talk, of an early dissolution of Parliament or change of Government. The rumor, however, affords little ground.

Wednesday, Feb. 27, the Lord Mayor of London assembled a distinguished party at the Mansion House to meet Mr. Buchanan previous to his return home. Unfortunately, Mr. Buchanan was on the same day invited to dine with the Queen, and etiquette required him to give Victoria's dinner the preference. The company consisted of members of Parliament, representing leading commercial constituencies; also American and colonial merchants. The Lord Mayor made a speech, regretting the absence of Mr. Buchanan, because the reception of the President's message, and the attitude of leading interests would have proved to him the absence of all unfriendly feeling in Britain as regarded America, and showed that though big words might arise on either side, the interests of commerce, peace, civilization and humanity were too powerful to permit collision between England and the United States. Similar feelings were expressed by other speakers, among them Cobden and Earl Elgin.

On February 27th, the Queen held a levee. Mr. Buchanan, and also the Brazilian, Peruvian, Mexican and Haytian ministers attended. Parliamentary proceedings are interesting. It is reported that government succumb in the Wensleydale Peerage matters. Lord Derby maintains a Committee of the House of Lords to define the appellate jurisdiction of the House of Lords.

In the House of Commons, De Lacy Evans gives notice of a resolution disapproving of Government having refused to open Courts of Honor in Canada, while at the same time abortive attempts were made to enlist in adjoining neutral territory of the United States, contrary to International law.

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The evident cordiality existing between France and Austria tends to excite uneasiness in England, and a triple league of France, Austria and Russia against England is rumored as an improbable incident.

THE CRUSADE. Orders have been forwarded to the Allied Generals in the Crimea respecting intimations to the Commanders and Admirals now in the Crimea. Letters are being sent to return to their commands. Leave of absence is now freely given to officers in the Crimea.

The Allies were about to destroy the sunken ships in Sebastopol Harbor, by dropping upon them heavy shells from the water.

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The Muse.

From Putnam's Monthly.

MALAKOFF MARSEILLAISE.

Three times the Frenchman charged, with cheers, to win the Malakoff;
Three times they rolled in triumph, and heard the Russian shout.

What's to do? their hearts grow cold, that fire!
Falls faint and dead—a broken spell, a battle-cry no more.

From man to man
The whispering ran:
"Long live the Marseillaise!"

The murmur grows; they talk aloud: "Our fathers' song!" they cry,
"Hear! hear! our lovely tri-color, in the gallant time gone by!"

O'er battle-fields and battered walls they sang it,
From the Alps and the Pyrenees, all round, to the rolling Zuyder Zee.

We'd try the conquering charm, this day, and, though its port-holes blew,
We'd give you that bloody Malakoff—but give us the Marseillaise!

Says a brown zouave,
"My Chief, let us have
One touch of the Marseillaise!"

Grave looks the stout Russian, when he hears that startling word,
Says, "Nonense! Go!" but well I know his Frenchman's heart was stirred:

"Those English by you Redan; they're quashed,
And, on my word, I'll set 'em in, and, cheered by the brightening prospect, we began to think of the first that, during our late moments of reckless indifference, had been almost suffered to burn out. The Delawares, seizing their tomahawks, commenced hacking at the pine walls of the fort, and the Frenchmen, with their bayoneted rifles, dragged forward the fallen trees, lopping off their branches with the keen whirling knife.

At this moment a peculiar cry attracted our attention, and, looking round, we perceived one of the Indians drop suddenly upon his knees, striking the ground with his hatchet.

"What is it? what is it?" shouted several voices, in almost as many languages.

"Yam yan! yam yan!" replied the Indian, still digging at the frozen ground.

"The Injun's right; it's a man-roo!" said Gary, picking up some leaves which the Delaware had chopped off.

I recognized a plant well known to the mountain men—a rare, but wonderful convolvulus—the *Ipomoea leptophylla*. The name of "man-roo" is given to it by the hunters from the similarity of its root in shape, and sometimes in size, to the body of a man. It is esculent, and serves to sustain human life.

In an instant, half a dozen men were upon their knees, chipping and hacking the hard clay, but their hatchets glinted off as from the surface of a rock.

"Look here!" cried Gary; "ye're only spoiling' yer tools. Cut down a when o' these saplins' and make a fire over him."

The hint was instantly followed, and in a few minutes a dozen pieces of pine were piled upon the spot, and set on fire.

We stood around the burning branches with eager anticipation. Should the root prove a "full-grown man," it would make a supper for our whole party; and with the cheering idea of supper, heads were ventured upon—the first we had heard for some time—the hunters tickled with the novelty of unearthing the "old man," ready roasted, and speculating whether he would prove a "fat old hoo."

A hollow crack sounded from above, like the breaking of a dead tree. We looked up. A large object, an animal, was whirling outward and downward from a ledge that projected half-way up the cliff. In an instant it struck the earth, head foremost, with a loud "bump," and bounding to the height of several feet, came back with a summer on its legs, and stood firm.

An involuntary "hurrah!" broke from the hunters, who all recognized, at a glance, the "Carnero Cimmaron," or "bighorn." He had cleared the precipice at two leaps, lightning-like time on his huge erect-shaped horns. For a moment both parties, hunters and game, seemed equally taken by surprise, and stood eyeing each other in mute wonder. It was but for a moment. The men made a rush for a moment, and the animal recovering from his trance of astonishment, tossed back his horns, and bounded across the platform. In a dozen springs he had reached the edge of the snow, and plunged into its yielding bed; but at the same instant several rifles cracked, and the white wrath was crimsoned behind him. He still kept on, however, leaping and breaking through the drift.

We struck into his track, and followed with the eagerness of hungry wolves. We could tell by the numerous gouges that he was shedding his life blood, and about fifty paces farther on we found him dead.

A shout apprised our companions of our success, and we had commenced dragging back the prize, when wild cries reached us from the platform, the yells of the men, screams of women, mingled exclamations of terror. We ran on to the entrance. On reaching it, a sight was before us that caused the stoutest to tremble. Hunters, Indians, and women were running to and fro in confusion, uttering their varied cries.

The little platform on which we rested—a piece of two or three acres—was still free from the snow drift, on account of its exposure to the wind. Struggling pines, stunted and leafless, grew over its surface, in all about fifty or sixty trees. From these we obtained our fire; but what were fires, when we had no meat to cook upon them?

We were now in the third day without food, though not absolutely without eating. The men had boiled their gun covers, and the cat skins for their bullet-pouches, and were now now—the last shift but one—stripping the *parafine* from the soles of their moccasins!

The women, wrapped in their *talmes*, nestled closely in the embrace of father, brother, husband and lover; for all these affections were present. The last string of *tasajo*, hitherto economized for their sake, had been parcelled out to them in the morning. That was gone, and whence was their next meal to come? At long intervals, *"Ay me! Dios di mi alma!"* were heard only in low murmurs, as some colder blast swept down the canon. In the face of those beautiful creatures might be read that uncomplaining patience that high endurance—so characteristic of the Hispano-Mexican women. Even the stern men around them bore up with less fortitude. Rude shouts were uttered from time to time, and teeth ground together, with that strange wild look that betrays insanity. Once or twice I fancied that I observed a look of stilted anger, still wider expression, when the black ring forms around the eyes, when the muscles twitch and quiver around the mouth, when men gaze gully-like at each other. Oh! it was fearful! The half-breed discipline, voluntary at the best, had vanished under the leveling rod of a common suffering, and I trembled to think.

"It clars a leetle, out tharwa!"

It was the voice of the trapper, Gary, who had risen and stood pointing towards the East. In an instant we were all upon our feet, looking in the direction indicated. Sure enough, there was a break in the lead-colored sky—a yellowish streak, that widened out as we continued gazing—the flakes felt lighter and thinner, and in two hours more it had ceased snowing altogether.

Halt a dozen of us, shouldering our rifles, struck down the valley. We made more than one attempt to trample a road through the drift. It was a vain one. The snow was over our heads, and after struggling for two hours, we had not gained above two hundred yards.

Here we caught a glimpse of what lay before us. As far as the eye could reach, it rested upon the same dead, impassable masses. Despair and hunger paralyzed our exertions, and dropping off one by one, we returned to the camp.

We fell down around the fire in sullen silence. Gary continued pacing back and forth, now glancing up at the sky, and at times kneeling down, and running his hand over the surface of the snow. At length he approached the fire, in his slow and dragging manner, remarked—

"It's a gwine to rain, I reckon."

"Well, an' if it does," asked one of his comrades, without caring for an answer to the question.

"Wal, an' if it does," repeated the trapper, "we'll walk out o' this yer jug afore sun up, an' upon a good hard trail."

The expression of every face was changed as if by magic. Several leaped to their feet. Gode, the Canadian, skilled in snow-craft, ran to a bank, and drawing his hand along the combing, shouted back—

"*C'est vrai! il gele! il gele!*"

"Cold was soon after set in, and, cheered by the brightening prospect, we began to think of the first that, during our late moments of reckless indifference, had been almost suffered to burn out. The Delawares, seizing their tomahawks, commenced hacking at the pine walls of the fort, and the Frenchmen, with their bayoneted rifles, dragged forward the fallen trees, lopping off their branches with the keen whirling knife.

At this moment a peculiar cry attracted our attention, and, looking round, we perceived one of the Indians drop suddenly upon his knees, striking the ground with his hatchet.

"What is it? what is it?" shouted several voices, in almost as many languages.

"Yam yan! yam yan!" replied the Indian, still digging at the frozen ground.

"The Injun's right; it's a man-roo!" said Gary, picking up some leaves which the Delaware had chopped off.

I recognized a plant well known to the mountain men—a rare, but wonderful convolvulus—the *Ipomoea leptophylla*. The name of "man-roo" is given to it by the hunters from the similarity of its root in shape, and sometimes in size, to the body of a man. It is esculent, and serves to sustain human life.

In an instant, half a dozen men were upon their knees, chipping and hacking the hard clay, but their hatchets glinted off as from the surface of a rock.

"Look here!" cried Gary; "ye're only spoiling' yer tools. Cut down a when o' these saplins' and make a fire over him."

The hint was instantly followed, and in a few minutes a dozen pieces of pine were piled upon the spot, and set on fire.

We stood around the burning branches with eager anticipation. Should the root prove a "full-grown man," it would make a supper for our whole party; and with the cheering idea of supper, heads were ventured upon—the first we had heard for some time—the hunters tickled with the novelty of unearthing the "old man," ready roasted, and speculating whether he would prove a "fat old hoo."

A hollow crack sounded from above, like the breaking of a dead tree. We looked up. A large object, an animal, was whirling outward and downward from a ledge that projected half-way up the cliff. In an instant it struck the earth, head foremost, with a loud "bump," and bounding to the height of several feet, came back with a summer on its legs, and stood firm.

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stated by several Mexicans, was hurrying the terrified folk towards the spot where we had left the Cimmaron.

Many of us knew that to hide under the circumstances, would be worse than useless. The fierce but sagacious brutes would have discovered us one by one, and destroyed us in detail. "They must be met and fought!" that was the word; and we resolved to carry it into execution.

There were about a dozen of us who stood to it, all the Delawares and Shawnees, and the agency by which commodities are transferred from the producer to the consumer, they seem to look upon as a kind of swindling operation; they do not see that the merchant acts a useful part in the community, or that his labor can be other than selfish and malevolent. They speak angrily of New York, as if it fattened on the country without doing the country any good in return. They have no idea that it is their business that the New Yorkers are doing, and that whatever tends to facilitate it, and make it simple and secure, is an increase of their wealth by diminishing the costs and lessening the losses upon it.

They gravely demand why the government mail steamers should be sent to New York, when New York has so much business already, and why the nation should build costly custom houses and post-offices, and mints, and sea defenses, and collect stores and equipments there, and not at Norfolk, and Petersburg, and Richmond, and Danvers, and Lynchburg, and Smithtown, and Jones-Cross-Roads? It seems never to have occurred to them that it is because the country needs them there, because the skill, enterprise and energy of New York merchants, the confidence of capitalists in New York money, the various facilities for trade offered by New York merchants, enable them to do the business of the country cheaper and better than can be done anywhere else, and that thus they can command the commerce, and need not petition their Legislature, or appeal to mean sectional prejudices to obtain it, but all imagine it is by some shrewd Yankee trickery it is done. By the bones of their noble fathers they will set their faces against it—and their faces are not of dough—so they bully their local merchants into buying in dearer markets, and make the country to its gold on to Philadelphia to be coined; and their conventions resolve that the world shall come to Norfolk, or Richmond, or Smithtown, and that no more cotton shall be sent to England until England will pay a price for it that shall lead negroes to be worth a thousand dollars a head, &c., &c., &c.

Then, if it is asked why Norfolk, with its immense natural superiority for manufacturing, has not prospered like Glasgow, or Petersburg like Lowell—why Virginia is not like Pennsylvania, or Kentucky like Ohio—they will perhaps answer that it is owing to the peculiar tastes they have inherited; "settled mainly (as was Virginia) by the sons of country gentlemen, who brought the love of country life with them across the Atlantic, and infused into the mass of the population, they have ever preferred that life; and the title of country gentlemen, implying the possession of landed estates, has always been esteemed more honorable than any other."

It is simply a matter of taste—an answer which remains us of *Reop's* fox.

Ask an honest stranger who has been brought into intimate intercourse for a short time with the people, why it is that there has been stagnation, and there constant, healthy progress, and he will answer that these people are less enterprising, energetic and sensible in the conduct of their affairs; that they live less in harmony with the laws that govern the accumulation of wealth than those.

Ask him how this difference of character should have arisen, and he will tell you it is not from the blood, but from the education they have received; from the institutions and circumstances they have inherited. It is the old, fettered, barbarian labor-system, in connection with which they have been brought up, against which all their enterprise must struggle, and with the chains of which all their ambition must be bound.

This conviction I find to be universal in the minds of strangers, and it is forced upon one more strongly than it is possible to make you comprehend by a mere statement of isolated facts. You could as well convey an idea of the effect of mist on a landscape, by enumerating the number of particles of vapor that obscure it. Give Virginia blood fire play, remove it from the atmosphere of slavery, and it shows no lack of energy and good sense.

It is strange the Virginians dare not look this in the face. Strange how they bluster in their legislative debates, in their newspapers, and in the "Yorker," declaring that they are "swindled out of their legitimate trade," when the simple truth is, that the northern merchants do that for them that they are unable to do for themselves. As well might the Chinese be angry with you for sending our clipper ships for their tea, because it is a business that would be more "legitimately" (however less profitably) carried on in "Junkeas."

There's a yarn I have heard from the Staten Island coasters, who run down to the capes of Virginia for oysters, which illustrates admirably how Virginia commerce would be "legitimately" carried on, that is, in the manner naturally resulting from her system.

Among the largest and luckiest of the Virginia merchant-marine, is the fine, fast-sailing, light-draft, putty-bottomed, packet-sloop, the *Abstraction*. The "Old Ab" was formerly owned and commanded by Captain Jerry S., and was manned by one black boy, sixty years old, named Mopus, and commonly called Uncle Mopus. Mopus was a slave, and Captain Jerry had bought him with the sloop.

Mopus was a proper slave, patient, meek, stupid, and stammering—a talking donkey. He never had been taught to read or to comprehend figures. He could not understand the dial, and the binnacle-compass was a sort of fetish to him; the mystery of which he was too humble to desire to penetrate. He pliously left those great things in the hands of the owner and resigned himself to the will of that Providence which had given him a master to take care of him, who was responsible for his safety and profits, as well as the sloop's.

This resignation and faith of the good Mopus, however, often gave Captain Jerry a deal of trouble; for it obliged him to be nearly always on deck and wide awake, and he sometimes thought he might better sell Mopus, and buy a nigger that was not so good, (Captain Jerry, as I heard it, used to put in a word between now and then, and bear down on it, but the danger that such a one would prove entirely reckless of all moral suggestions, as smart niggers are very apt to, and go and steal himself, prevented his doing so, and he tried to make the best of Mopus's muscles and to supply the necessary brain-power for the sloop from his own private stock.

One night, Captain Jerry having been up all the previous night, and having just worked the sloop out of Hampton roads, against wind and tide, and being quite overcome with fatigue, he thought he might venture to trust Mopus with the helm for a few hours, the sloop's course be-

was an ominous stillness, that lasted for a moment, and then the Indian's fate was announced in the sad, wild note that came wailing up the valley. It was the dirge of a Shawnee warrior!

They had found their brave comrade dead, with his scalping-knife buried in the heart of his terrible antagonist.

COMMERCIAL SUCCESS OF VIRGINIA.

Singularly simple, child-like ideas about commercial success, you find among the Virginians even among the merchants themselves. The agency by which commodities are transferred from the producer to the consumer, they seem to look upon as a kind of swindling operation; they do not see that the merchant acts a useful part in the community, or that his labor can be other than selfish and malevolent. They speak angrily of New York, as if it fattened on the country without doing the country any good in return. They have no idea that it is their business that the New Yorkers are doing, and that whatever tends to facilitate it, and make it simple and secure, is an increase of their wealth by diminishing the costs and lessening the losses upon it.

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One night, Captain Jerry having been up all the previous night, and having just worked the sloop out of Hampton roads, against wind and tide, and being quite overcome with fatigue, he thought he might venture to trust Mopus with the helm for a few hours, the sloop's course be-

ing now due North, up Chesapeake bay, wind light, and quartering a clear sky, and nothing in the way for fifty miles.

Mopus knew the North Star very well, as niggers generally do, and telling him to keep the bow-sprit pointing straight at it, and not to disturb him until he saw land to starboard; Captain Jerry put out the binnacle-light to wave oil, and turned in.

Captain Jerry had the habit, which small-craft men are apt to get, of consulting aloud with himself. No sooner had he closed the companion scuttle than Mopus, with head to the stove pipe, heard—"Moon filled Thursday—black water at six—North Star—thell do till daylight certain—due North—Tangier island—no before meridian—can't go wrong till after daylight, no how—good success this time—go in—off boots."

Mopus was a capital helmsman; and for two hours, while the breeze held, he kept on a bee-line to the Northward. Then it fell calm; and then there came little catpaws from northwest, and Mopus, after giving a pull of the main-sheet, left the helm a minute to fatten the jib.

While he was forward, a flaw from the north-east took him all aback. Belaying jib-sheet, he came aft, and put helm up to wear round. Just as he jibed, came another flaw from the southeast, and a pretty smart one. Mopus met it, trimmed close, and seeing it was going to be steady, left the helm again, and shoved down the center board. Then he went to the hatch-way and got his coat, after which he took a pull at the scuttle-but, and struck a light for a smoke.

All this time Old Abby, with her head shrouded, was shaking like a nail-mill. Mopus finally hauled the jib up to port, till the mainsail filled, then took the helm again, and kept her nap full heading south, but running off to the westward, now and then, in search for the North Star, which, as he could not see it anywhere else, he thought for a long time might have got behind the mainsail.

He had smoked out two pipes before he found it, and then it was right over the stern, which at first struck him as a singular circumstance. There it was, "pointers and all;" he could not be mistaken. But how did it get there?

Mopus pondered over it for two pipes more, all the while giving her a good full and nothing off. He was at first inclined to treat it as a mystery; but when, about two o'clock, the moon rose, he grew bold, knotted his eyebrows, clenched his teeth, took off his tarpaulin and struck his red-tailed organs with his clenched fist.

At length the problem was solved, and his lips trembled and gathered inward and puckered back with that pleasure which niggers, in common with human beings, enjoy, when they are conscious of having acquitted themselves well of a trying and honorable responsibility.

He immediately hauled the boom down close to the taffrail; he went forward, and belayed the jib to windward, lighted his pipe again, and kept a good lookout till, as day broke, he made land to starboard, just as he expected—land to starboard—and why didn't he see it before?

"A light right ahead, and not very far ahead either."

"All right," thought Mopus, "daylight, hump! let an old nigger alone to find the way to the North;" and he let the jib draw away, went aft, took the helm and called the skipper.

The skipper turned out.

"Hallo, come, close hauled? Wind's come out o'norward, has it? Why, Mopus? why! what the devil—what light's that? Why, Mopus? why you—Where were you been taking the sloop to now, you black rascal! here's the North Star over the stern!"

"Oh yes, massa, past de Norf Star an hour ago, all right, sar, here's de land right off to leeward. Made a fine run sar. Oh! I knows how to fotech 'em along, I does, don't he! ha! ha! Takes old Mopus arter all, yessir, he! ha! ha! "

"Yes (through his teeth) mighty fine run! Old Point, by the blood of Pocahontas! just where I'd got her last night at sunset!—you grinnin' catamount! Takes old Mopus! You bloody old cum! I'll sell you for a chaw of tobacco to the first white man that'll take you off my hands."

[Journey in the Seaboard Slave States.

WOULD HAVE THE REASON. On Tuesday last, Mr. John Ross prosecuted his shopmate, Robert Lord, for assault and battery. While the complaint was under examination, the following colloquy took place between him and the defendant's counsel:

"Did you not call my client here, and defendant, a fool?"

"I did."

"Why did you, sir?"

"I decline to answer that question."

"Why do you decline to answer it? I'll appeal to the court to punish you for your contumacy. You ought to be fined for contempt. I'll let you know that you can't call my client a fool, without giving your reasons."

"I don't know that my reasons have anything to do with the case."

"I'll let you know they have. Now, answer the question."

"Well, if I must, I must. I said I thought he was a fool, because he didn't know better than to hire such a chucklehead as you to defend him."

The counsel dropped the witness and let the question of contempt pass.

A LITERARY TRIUMPH.—SCENE—Chambers somewhere in the Temple-Town.—I am, Jim, hand us down those two volumes of Macaulay's History of England.

Jim.—Don't bother—I'm looking for the backgammon-board.

Tom.—Well, you ignoramus, that's the very thing!

Jim.—Why, it used to be Hume and Smollett!

Tom.—Precisely; but don't you know that Hume and Smollett are out of date, and that Macaulay is all the game now. That is why I have promoted the old trump to the backgammon-board. It will never do to be behind-hand in one's history! Cut on (thrusting.) Cinq-acc.

[Punch.

PRETTY GOOD. An extensive and wealthy lumberman in a neighboring county, is the father of a hard nut of a boy. Being desirous of reforming him, he offered as an inducement, to give him the avails of the lumber from two thousand hemlock logs, provided that he would go to school and behave himself for one year. Young hopeful remained silent for some time after listening to the proposition. Finally, in reply to his father's interrogation—"What do you say, my son?"—he said, "Call it pine logs, father, and I'll go!"

SCENE IN A DRY GOODS STORE. Pretty Shop Girl—I am really very sorry, sir, that we have not got any shirts large enough for you, but if you like I will try your measure for some.

Languid Sewell, (taking off neckcloth.) My good gracious,—shall I have to stwip!

CANTINE W. QUININE. A Yankee doctor has contrived to extract from saunders a powerful tonic, which he says contains the whole strength of the original bark.

DR. PETTIT'S CANKER BALSAM.

WHEN TRIED ALWAYS PLEASANT. A SHORT TIME SINCE we were talking with an agent who had formerly sold this, but had now sold all his stock, which it cured in a few days